Address: 219-31 East Redwood Street
Current Name: Vickers Building

Block: 662 Lot: 10
Height: 4 stories
Condition: Good
Use: Office
Designation: None

Lot size: 55´ x 80´
Materials: Brick
Owner: Brown Redwood Lim. Part.
Accessible: Yes
Liber/Folio: CWM 4140-137

Historic Name: Vickers Building
Date: 1904
Architect/Builder: Meyers and Eitelman/D.W. and G.H. Thomas
Style (if appropriate):

Description:

This four story high, seven bay wide brick building features stone trim,
recessed bay windows and a heavy copper cornice. A central entrance protected
by an awning has a sign panel above a wood and glass door. On the sign panel
which is decorated by brackets, triglyphs, egg and dart molding and wave
molding, is displayed the name, "VICKERS." Flanking the entrance are wood and
glass storefronts with large transoms between brick pilasters with decorative
capitals. Blank sign panels above the storefronts are surmounted by an
ornamental band course. The brick building walls of the three central bays are
punctuated by grouped one over one windows on the upper floors, while the two
end bays have recessed bay windows. These slightly bowed windows are decorated
by pediments with scrolled end brackets on the second floor. Lion head
keystones are located above the bowed windows on the fourth floor. The building
is capped by a heavy copper cornice displaying egg and dart molding, large
modillions and antefix decorations. The interior of Werner´s cafeteria in the
building is noteworthy for its restrained Art Deco styling.

Significance:
    Area: Architecture   Level: Local

The Vickers Building is one of the largest brick office buildings on Redwood
Street; most of the neighboring buildings are constructed of stone. It is a,
well designed structure with a variety of ornamentation including intricate
moldings, bracketed pediments and lions head keystones. This building replaced
the former Vickers building which was a cast iron design with a mansard roof on
this site. After the Fire, cast iron construction and mansard roofs were rarely
used. This building represents post-Fire design which emphasized brick or stone
symmetrical fronts with classical detailing and a flat roof often defined by a
heavy cornice. The building was cleaned and renovated a year ago. Among the
commercial uses on the ground floor is Werners Cafe, which is significant for
its restrained Art Deco interior, and Bendans Art Gallery, which moved from
Baltimore Street after a recent fire. Redwood Street is becoming a fashionable
shopping street. A Lowmeyer´s clothing store has recently opened in the
adjacent Keyser Building and a Gucci store is being proposed for the side of the
Maryland Trust Building.

Sources: BS 5/14/1904 p. 7 c. 2-5 (elevation); 5/19/1904 p. 12 c. 2 (permit
issued); Architects and Builders Journal 1/1906 p. 8 (architect listed).
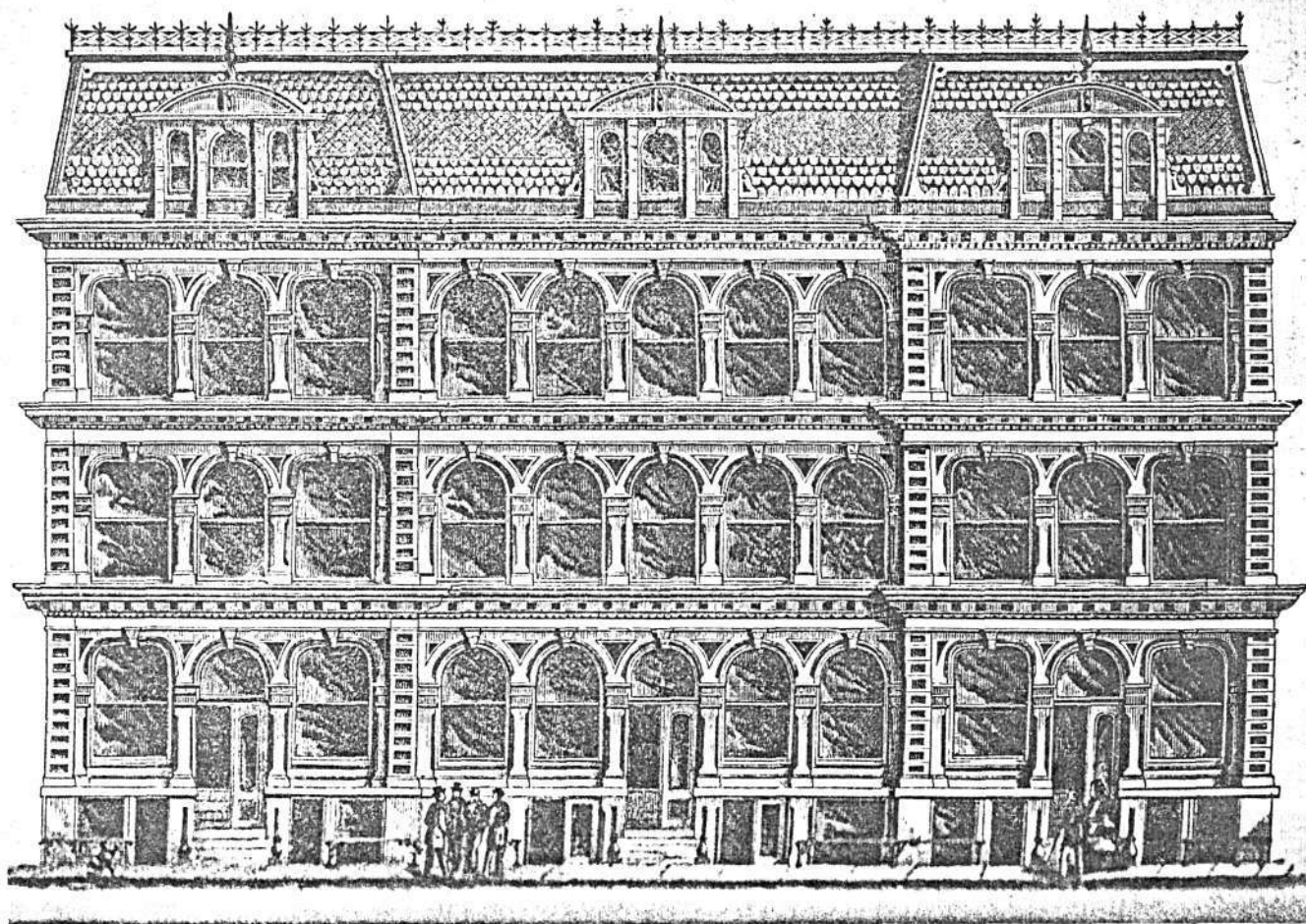Surveyor and Date: Fred B. Shoken, April 1985.

OFFICE BUILDING, GERMAN STREET, TO BE ERECTED BY MR. GEORGE R. VICKERS

Mr. George R. Vickers, Jr., will erect a four-story office building on the south side of German street, between Calvert and South streets. He has awarded the contract to D. W. & G. H. Thomas, and work on the structure will be started next week. The building will front on German street 55 feet and have a depth of 80 feet. It will have a brick front, with terra cotta and limestone trimmings. The first floor will be of reinforced concrete construction. The building will cost about $50,000.
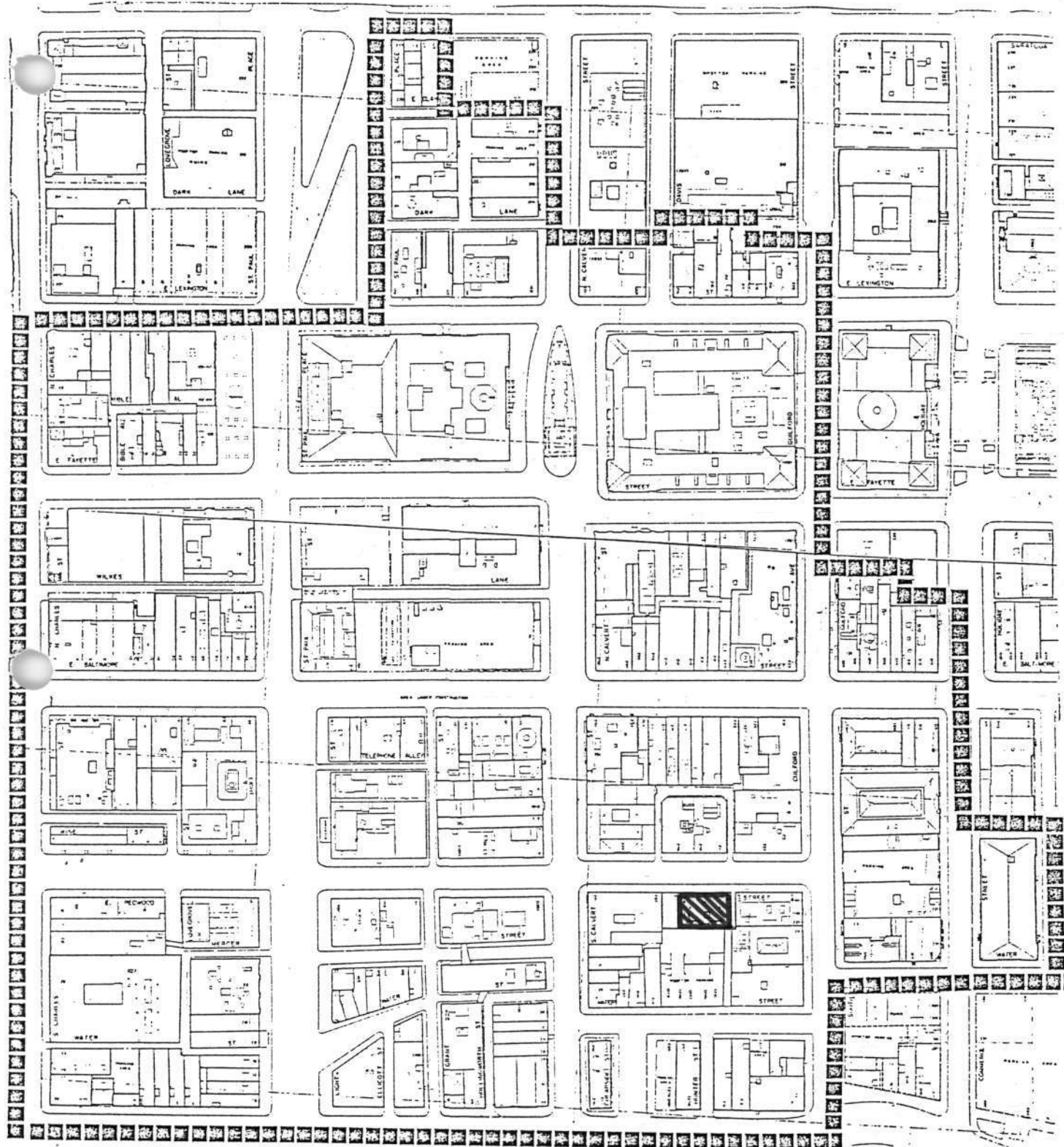
Baltimore Sun, May 14, 1904 p. 7 c. 2-5.

Monummental City p. 254.
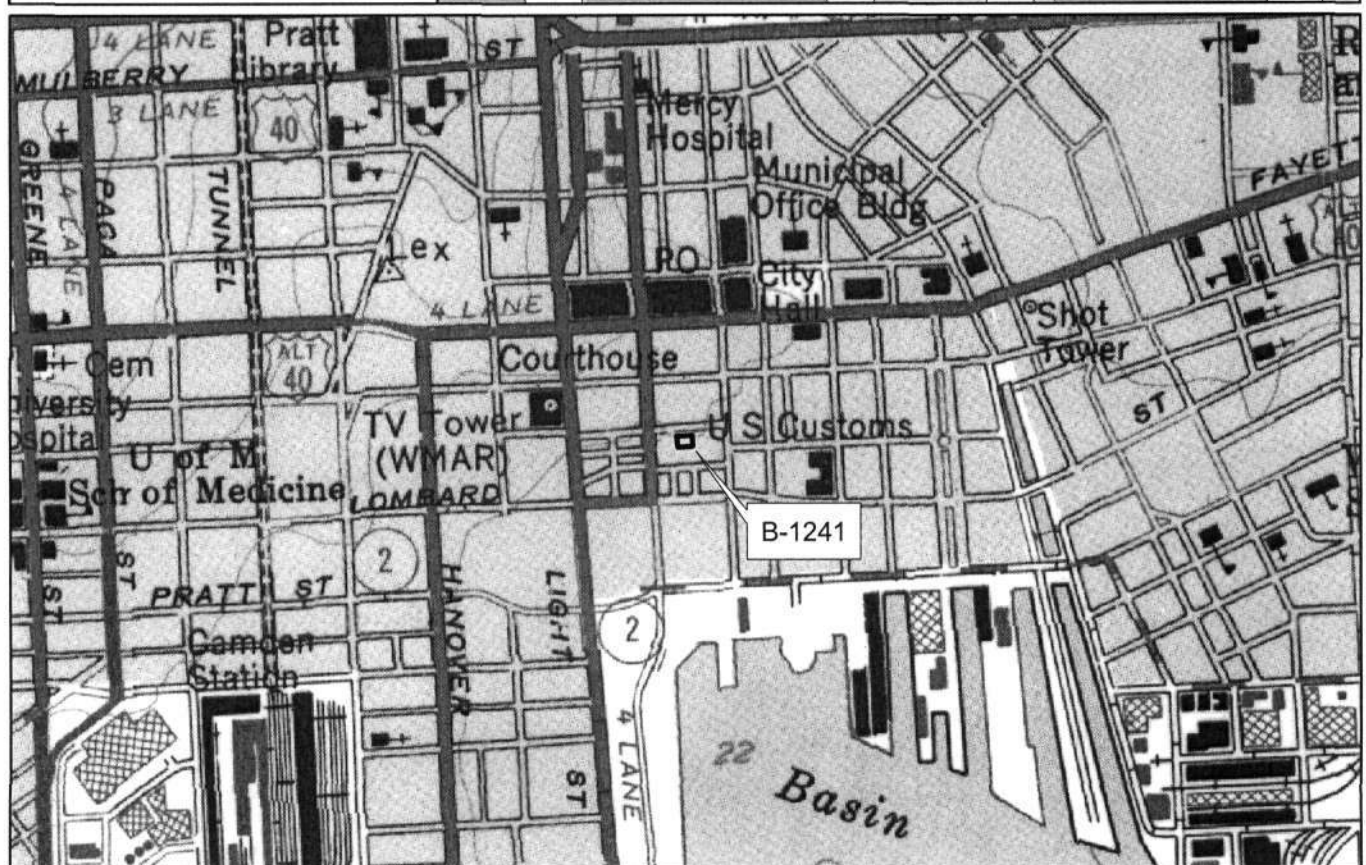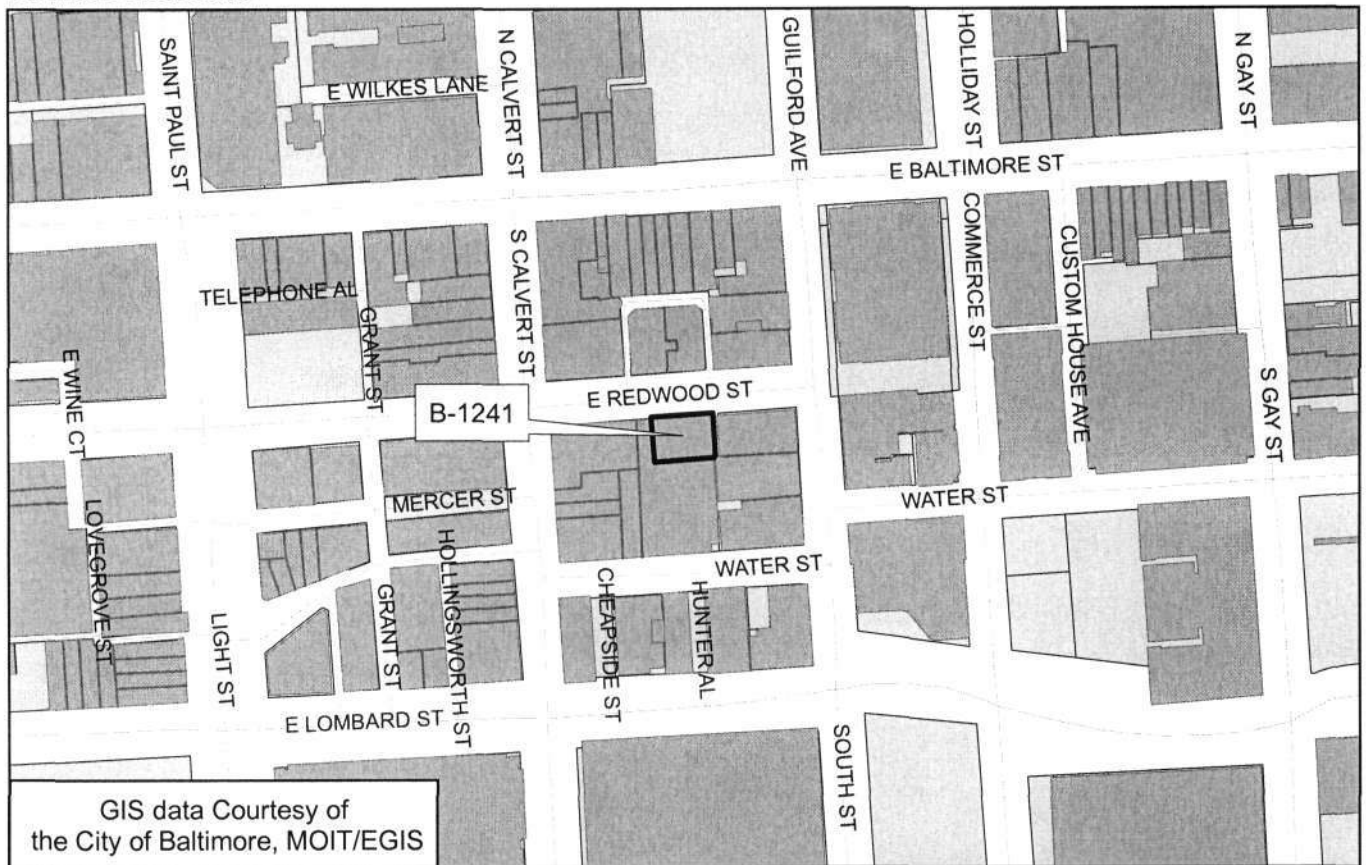
Baltimore Financial District Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland

B-1241   Vickers Building
              219-231 East Redwood Street

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B-1241
Vickers Building
219-231 E. Redwood Street
Block 0662 Lot 010
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad

GIS data Courtesy of
the City of Baltimore, MOIT/EGIS

B-1241

Vickers Building
219-231 E. Redwood Street
Financial District-Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Fred Shoken
Date: October 1983
Neg.loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
North elevation